Docket No.: 076476-0011 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 53080

Hiroshi IWAMOTO, et al. : Confirmation Number: 4397

Application No.: 10/593,894 : Group Art Unit: 1791

Filed: September 22, 2006 : Examiner: Dye, Robert C.

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING DISSIMILAR MATERIAL

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 24, 2008, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire March 24, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows.